

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-26. (canceled)

27. (new) A computerized system for providing high speed fault-tolerant storage of information, the system comprising:

- an array of computer storage devices, said computer storage devices being capable of storing computer-readable information,

- said array of computer storage devices including a plurality of computer storage devices, computer-readable information stored on said plurality of computer storage devices,

- said computer-readable information being stored on said plurality of computer storage devices in data redundant fashion,

- said array being configured to appear as a unitary block of computer-readable storage to applications programs,

- an adapter for accessing said array,

- said adapter including an array interface for performing desired operations on said array, such as read and write operations,

- said adapter including a network interface for interfacing with a computer network in order to permit users on a computer network to access said array,

- said network interface operating according to a scalable coherent interface (SCI) protocol, a computer network,

- said computer network being arranged in ring topology,

- said computer network utilizing a unidirectional interfaces in order to minimize latency, a plurality of client processors connectable to said computer network,

- said computer network supporting distributed processing of tasks across a plurality of processors connected to said computer network,

- a block of memory shared by a plurality of processors on said network; and

- wherein said array selects at least one feature selected from the group consisting of on-demand storage journaling capability, hotfix redirection, mirrored caching, annotated storage journaling, dynamic stripe block allocation, dynamically added stripe and mirror sets, break-away mirroring, and infinite HSM storage journaling.

28. (new) A system as recited in claim 27 wherein said computer network employs dual ring topology in order to permit continued operation of said computer network in the event of failure of a node of said computer network.

29. (new) A system as recited in claim 27 wherein said array includes dual data parity information for use in data error correction.

30. (new) A system as recited in claim 27 wherein said computer network includes a switch to provide continued operation of said network in case of failure of a node in said network.

31. (new) A system as recited in claim 27 wherein said SCI interface incorporates a plurality of axes in said array forming a fault-tolerant interconnection fabric.

32. (new) A computerized system for providing high speed fault-tolerant storage of information, the system comprising:

- an array of computer storage devices, said computer storage devices being capable of storing computer-readable information,

- said array of computer storage devices including a plurality of computer storage devices, computer-readable information stored on said plurality of computer storage devices, said computer-readable information being stored on said plurality of computer storage devices in data redundant fashion,

- said array being configured to appear as a unitary block of computer-readable storage to applications programs,

- an adapter for accessing said array,

- said adapter including an array interface for performing desired operations on said array, such as read and write operations,

- said adapter including a network interface for interfacing with a computer network in order to permit users on a computer network to access said array,

- said network interface operating according to a scalable coherent interface (SCI) protocol, a computer network,

- said computer network being arranged in ring topology,

- said computer network utilizing a unidirectional interfaces in order to minimize latency, a plurality of client processors connectable to said computer network,

- said computer network supporting distributed processing of tasks across a plurality of processors connected to said computer network,

- a block of memory shared by a plurality of processors on said network; and

- wherein said array selects a plurality of features selected from the group consisting of on-demand storage journaling capability, hotfix redirection, mirrored caching, annotated storage journaling, dynamic stripe block allocation, dynamically added stripe and mirror sets, break-away mirroring, and infinite HSM storage journaling.

33. (new) A system as recited in claim 32 wherein said computer network employs dual ring topology in order to permit continued operation of said computer network in the event of failure of a node of said computer network.

34. (new) A system as recited in claim 32 wherein said array includes dual data parity information for use in data error correction.

35. (new) A system as recited in claim 32 wherein said computer network includes a switch to provide continued operation of said network in case of failure of a node in said network.

36. (new) A system as recited in claim 32 wherein said SCI interface incorporates a plurality of axes in said array forming a fault-tolerant interconnection fabric.

37. (new) A computerized system for providing high speed fault-tolerant storage of information, the system comprising:

- an array of computer storage devices, said computer storage devices being capable of storing computer-readable information,

- said array of computer storage devices including a plurality of computer storage devices,
 - computer-readable information stored on said plurality of computer storage devices,
 - said computer-readable information being stored on said plurality of computer storage devices in data redundant fashion,

- said array being configured to appear as a unitary block of computer-readable storage to applications programs,

- an adapter for accessing said array,

- said adapter including an array interface for performing desired operations on said array, such as read and write operations,

- said adapter including a network interface for interfacing with a computer network in order to permit users on a computer network to access said array,

- said network interface operating according to a scalable coherent interface (SCI) protocol,
 - a computer network,

- said computer network being arranged in ring topology,

- said computer network utilizing a unidirectional interfaces in order to minimize latency,
 - a plurality of client processors connectable to said computer network,

- said computer network supporting distributed processing of tasks across a plurality of processors connected to said computer network,

- a block of memory shared by a plurality of processors on said network; and

- wherein said array selects at least one feature selected from the group consisting of on-demand storage journaling capability, hotfix redirection, mirrored caching, and annotated storage journaling.

38. (new) A system as recited in claim 37 wherein said computer network employs dual ring topology in order to permit continued operation of said computer network in the event of failure of a node of said computer network.

39. (new) A system as recited in claim 37 wherein said array includes dual data parity information for use in data error correction.

40. (new) A system as recited in claim 37 wherein said computer network includes a switch to provide continued operation of said network in case of failure of a node in said network.

41. (new) A system as recited in claim 37 wherein said SCI interface incorporates a plurality of axes in said array forming a fault-tolerant interconnection fabric.

42. (new) A computerized system for providing high speed fault-tolerant storage of information, the system comprising:

- an array of computer storage devices, said computer storage devices being capable of storing computer-readable information,

- said array of computer storage devices including a plurality of computer storage devices, computer-readable information stored on said plurality of computer storage devices, said computer-readable information being stored on said plurality of computer storage devices in data redundant fashion,

- said array being configured to appear as a unitary block of computer-readable storage to applications programs,

- an adapter for accessing said array,

- said adapter including an array interface for performing desired operations on said array, such as read and write operations,

- said adapter including a network interface for interfacing with a computer network in order to permit users on a computer network to access said array,

- said network interface operating according to a scalable coherent interface (SCI) protocol, a computer network,

- said computer network being arranged in ring topology,

- said computer network utilizing a unidirectional interfaces in order to minimize latency, a plurality of client processors connectable to said computer network,

- said computer network supporting distributed processing of tasks across a plurality of processors connected to said computer network,

- a block of memory shared by a plurality of processors on said network; and

- wherein said array selects at least one feature selected from the group consisting of dynamic stripe block allocation, dynamically added stripe and mirror sets, break-away mirroring, and infinite HSM storage journaling.

43. (new) A system as recited in claim 42 wherein said computer network employs dual ring topology in order to permit continued operation of said computer network in the event of failure of a node of said computer network.

44. (new) A system as recited in claim 42 wherein said array includes dual data parity information for use in data error correction.

45. (new) A system as recited in claim 42 wherein said computer network includes a switch to provide continued operation of said network in case of failure of a node in said network.

46. (new) A system as recited in claim 42 wherein said SCI interface incorporates a plurality of axes in said array forming a fault-tolerant interconnection fabric.

47. (new) A computerized system for providing high speed fault-tolerant storage of information, the system comprising:

- an array of computer storage devices, said computer storage devices being capable of storing computer-readable information,

- said array of computer storage devices including a plurality of computer storage devices,
 - computer-readable information stored on said plurality of computer storage devices,
 - said computer-readable information being stored on said plurality of computer storage devices in data redundant fashion,

- said array being configured to appear as a unitary block of computer-readable storage to applications programs,

- an adapter for accessing said array,

- said adapter including an array interface for performing desired operations on said array, such as read and write operations,

- said adapter including a network interface for interfacing with a computer network in order to permit users on a computer network to access said array,

- said network interface operating according to a scalable coherent interface (SCI) protocol, a computer network,

- said computer network being arranged in ring topology,

- said computer network utilizing a unidirectional interfaces in order to minimize latency, a plurality of client processors connectable to said computer network,

- said computer network supporting distributed processing of tasks across a plurality of processors connected to said computer network,

- a block of memory shared by a plurality of processors on said network; and

- wherein said array selects at least one feature selected from the group consisting of on-demand storage journaling capability, mirrored caching, dynamic stripe block allocation, and break-away mirroring.

48. (new) A system as recited in claim 47 wherein said computer network employs dual ring topology in order to permit continued operation of said computer network in the event of failure of a node of said computer network.

49. (new) A system as recited in claim 47 wherein said array includes dual data parity information for use in data error correction.

50. (new) A system as recited in claim 47 wherein said computer network includes a switch to provide continued operation of said network in case of failure of a node in said network.

51. (new) A system as recited in claim 47 wherein said SCI interface incorporates a plurality of axes in said array forming a fault-tolerant interconnection fabric.

52. (new) A computerized system for providing high speed fault-tolerant storage of information, the system comprising:

- an array of computer storage devices, said computer storage devices being capable of storing computer-readable information,

- said array of computer storage devices including a plurality of computer storage devices, computer-readable information stored on said plurality of computer storage devices, said computer-readable information being stored on said plurality of computer storage devices in data redundant fashion,

- said array being configured to appear as a unitary block of computer-readable storage to applications programs,

- an adapter for accessing said array,
 - said adapter including an array interface for performing desired operations on said array, such as read and write operations,

- said adapter including a network interface for interfacing with a computer network in order to permit users on a computer network to access said array,

- said network interface operating according to a scalable coherent interface (SCI) protocol, a computer network,

- said computer network being arranged in ring topology,

- said computer network utilizing a unidirectional interfaces in order to minimize latency, a plurality of client processors connectable to said computer network,

- said computer network supporting distributed processing of tasks across a plurality of processors connected to said computer network,

- a block of memory shared by a plurality of processors on said network; and

- wherein said array selects at least one feature selected from the group consisting of hotfix redirection, annotated storage journaling, dynamically added stripe and mirror sets, and infinite HSM storage journaling.

53. (new) A system as recited in claim 42 wherein said computer network employs dual ring topology in order to permit continued operation of said computer network in the event of failure of a node of said computer network.

54. (new) A system as recited in claim 43 wherein said array includes dual data parity information for use in data error correction.

55. (new) A system as recited in claim 44 wherein said computer network includes a switch to provide continued operation of said network in case of failure of a node in said network.

56. (new) A system as recited in claim 45 wherein said SCI interface incorporates a plurality of axes in said array forming a fault-tolerant interconnection fabric.